GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:217
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2016
Safety Measures on GAIL Pipelines
Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Gopalakrishnan Shri R.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) proposes to deploy Drones to guard its pipelines as part of higher safety measures;
(b) if so, the details and the current status thereof and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;
(c) the extent to which the proposed Drone project is likely to ensure the foolproof security of GAIL pipelines in the country;
(d) the details of the accidents of GAIL pipelines reported during the last three years and the resultant loss of life and property therefrom along with compensation paid to each victim, State/ UT-wise; and
(e) the other steps taken/being taken by the GAIL for safety and security of their entire installations/vast network including HBJ pipeline in Madhya Pradesh to prevent such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 217 REGARDING SAFETY MEASURES ON GAIL PIPELINES ASKED BY SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN AND SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL ,MPs TO BE ANSWERED ON MAY 09, 2016
(a) to (b): Surveillance of vast network of pipelines across the country is required to ensure the safety & reliability of pipelines and guard against sabotage, exposure, soil erosion, excavation and construction works etc. Presently it is being achieved through regular periodic foot patrolling and air surveillance by hiring Helicopter Services on monthly basis. As line patrolling is extremely difficult for pipeline sections passing through forests, rivers, environmentally sensitive areas and other inaccessible areas, GAIL (India) Limited has awarded an order for aerial surveillance of 200 kilometers for the Hazira Vijaipur Jagdishpur (HVJ)/ Dahej Vijaipur (DVPL) pipelines with Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)/Drone as a Pilot Project. The order has been placed on M/s Air Service India at an expected expenditure of around Rs 1.38 Crores. This pilot project will carry out the air surveillance by using high resolution camera/infrared camera.
(c): Does not arise as the project is on pilot basis.
(d) The details of accidents occurred in GAIL pipeline during last three years are at Annexure.
(e) GAIL is operating its gas pipelines as per national and international codes and standards viz., American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code B31.8, Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) guidelines and safety standards prescribed by the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO). GAIL has formulated a comprehensive Maintenance Policy & Guidelines in accordance with above mentioned standards for maintaining asset integrity and safe & reliable operations across the country on a sustainable basis. The above adopted practices for safe operations have also been implemented for HVJ pipelines in Madhya Pradesh.
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